

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~web water sorptive product~~ comprising [[of]]:

a wet-laid web of a particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer;

neutralization agent;

fiber; and

water;

wherein the ratio of the pre-superabsorbent polymer to fiber is from about 30:70 to about 40:60;

wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer, water and the fiber are mixed together form a slurry, wherein said slurry was added to wet-laid process of making a wet-laid web, said water is removed from said slurry to result in a pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber mixture, said neutralization agent is added to said pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber mixture, wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer is neutralized by the neutralization agent to form a superabsorbent polymer and fiber water sorptive product.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~water sorptive product~~ web of claim 1, wherein the superabsorbent polymer has a degree of neutralization less than about 80 mol %.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~water sorptive product~~ web of claim 1, wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer comprising the reaction product of:

- (a) an olefinically-unsaturated acid selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, and mixtures thereof;
- (b) a compatible co-monomer for the acid of (a); and
- (c) a cross-linking agent;

said reaction product (i) being water insoluble and (ii) having carboxyl groups present therein, which carboxyl groups, when neutralized to their salt form, maintain the polymer as water insoluble and convert the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer component into a superabsorbent polymer component.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~water sorptive product~~ web of claim 1, wherein the superabsorbent polymer is surface cross-linked.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~water sorptive product~~ web of claim 1, wherein the water sorptive product has a centrifuge retention capacity property above 10 grams/gram.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~water sorptive product~~ web of claim 1, wherein the water sorptive product has an absorbency under load property above about 13 grams/gram at about 20 grams/cm² (about 0.3 psi).

Claims 7-19 (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A wet-laid web comprising:

a particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer;

a neutralizing agent;

fiber; and

water

wherein the ratio of the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer component to the fibrous component is in the range of from about ~~90:10 to about 5:95~~ 30:70 to about 40:60;

wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer, water and the fiber are mixed together to form a slurry, wherein said slurry was added to wet-laid process of making a wet-laid web, said water is removed from said slurry to result in a pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber mixture, said neutralization agent is added to said pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber mixture, during the wet-laid process of making a wet-laid web; and

wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer is neutralized by the neutralization agent to form a superabsorbent polymer having a degree of neutralization less than about 80 mol %, resulting is a superabsorbent polymer and fiber wet-laid.

21. (Previously Presented) The wet-laid web of claim 20 wherein the ratio of the polymer component to the fibrous component is in the range of from about 30:70 to about 40:60.

22. (Previously Presented) An absorbent article comprising the wet-laid web of claim 20.

23. (New) A web of pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber comprising:
a wet-laid web of a particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer wherein the pre-superabsorbent polymer includes a neutralization agent;
fiber; and
water;

wherein the ratio of the pre-superabsorbent polymer to fiber is from about 30:70 to about 40:60, and wherein the particulate pre-superabsorbent polymer, water and the fiber are mixed together form a slurry, wherein said slurry was added to wet-laid process of making a wet-laid web, said water is removed from said slurry to result in a pre-superabsorbent polymer and fiber mixture.